

CLAIMS

What is claimed is:--

- 1 1. Method for the drainage of laundry, the laundry being spun in a drum (11)
2 capable of being driven in rotation, and, at the same time, liquid contained in the
3 laundry being as far as possible removed from the latter, **characterized** in that the
4 drum (11) is driven at a circumferential speed such that a centrifugal acceleration
5 which is higher than 600 times gravitational acceleration acts on the laundry.
- 1 2. Method according to Claim 1, **characterized** in that, during loading of the
2 drum with the laundry, the laundry is distributed as uniformly as possible onto an
3 inner circumference of the drum (11).
- 1 3. Method according to Claim 1, **characterized** in that loading of the drum is
2 carried out with the drum (11) rotating at a speed which is reduced as compared
3 with drainage.
- 1 4. Method according to Claim 1, **characterized** in that the drum (11) is loaded
2 in a position in which drainage of the laundry also takes place, with a longitudinal
3 mid-axis (17) or axis of rotation of the drum (11) running approximately
4 horizontally.
- 1 5. Method according to Claim 4, **characterized** in that, to unload the drained
2 laundry, the drum (11) is pivoted into an unloading position by means of an
3 oblique position of the longitudinal mid-axis (17) or axis of rotation with respect to
4 the horizontal, the longitudinal mid-axis (17) or axis of rotation being inclined
5 downwards in the direction of a loading and unloading orifice (18) of the drum
6 (11).
- 1 6. Method according to Claim 1, **characterized** in that, after loading of the
2 drum (11) with the laundry, rotational speed of the drum is increased quickly and
3 continuously, in that an electric motor (21) of a drive (15) of the drum (11) is
4 operated with its maximum torque during the run-up of the rotational speed of the
5 drum (11).
- 1 7. Device for the drainage of laundry, with a drum (11) for receiving a laundry
2 batch, the said drum being capable of being driven about an axis of rotation by
3 means of a drive (15), the drum (11) having a cylindrical surface area (20) which
4 is at least partially liquid-permeable, **characterized** in that the drive (15) is
5 designed to generate a pressing force corresponding to at least 600 times
6 gravitational acceleration, for pressing the laundry against the inside of the
7 surface area (20).

- 1 8. Device according to Claim 7, **characterized** in that the drum (11) has a
2 dynamic centre of gravity that, together with rotatable parts of the drive (15), is
3 arranged at least near a static centre of gravity of the drum (11) and preferably of
4 the drive (15).
- 1 9. Device according to Claim 8, **characterized** in that the drum (11) is
2 designed to be short in relation to the diameter and/or the drive (15) is of short
3 design, and the drive (15) is assigned to the drum (11) in such a way that the
4 static centre of gravity of the drum (11) and of the drive (15) is located in the
5 region of the drum (11) on the longitudinal mid-axis (17) of the latter.
- 1 10. Device for the drainage of laundry, with a drum (11) for receiving a laundry
2 batch, the said drum being capable of being driven in rotation about a longitudinal
3 mid-axis (17) by means of a drive (15), **characterized** in that the drum (11) can be
4 pivoted about a pivot axis (39) running perpendicularly through its longitudinal
5 mid-axis (17).
- 1 11. Device according to Claim 10, **characterized** in that the pivot axis (39) runs
2 horizontally, and the longitudinal mid-axis (17) of the drum likewise runs
3 horizontally in a drainage and/or loading position of the latter.
- 1 12. Device according to Claim 10, **characterized** in that the pivot axis (39) is
2 directly assigned at least one pivoting drive (16) for pivoting the drum (11), the
3 pivoting drive (16) being mounted directly at one end of the pivot axis (39)
4 preferably on at least one axle stub (40).
- 1 13. Device for the drainage of laundry, with a drum (11) for receiving a laundry
2 batch, the said drum being capable of being driven in rotation by means of a drive
3 (15), the drum (11) having a preferably cylindrical surface area (20) which is
4 provided with a grid of liquid-permeable orifices, **characterized** in that at least part
5 of the cylindrical surface area (20) has a grid of orifices such that the area of all
6 the orifices amounts to at least 15% of the cylindrical surface area (20) of the
7 drum (11).
- 1 14. Device according to Claim 13, **characterized** in that the orifices are formed
2 by identical cylindrical passage bores (19) with a diameter of about 2 to 4 mm.
- 1 15. Device according to Claim 13, **characterized** in that the wall thickness of at
2 least the cylindrical surface area (20) of the drum (11) amounts to 4 to 8 mm,
3 preferably about 5 mm.

1 16. Device according to Claim 14, **characterized** in that the passage bores
2 (19) have centre points and have spacings with respect to their centre points
3 (division) in a longitudinal and/or circumferential direction of the cylindrical surface
4 area (20) of the drum (11), the spacings being approximately identical or different
5 by a maximum of 10% of the diameter of the drum (11).

1 17. Device for the drainage of laundry, with a drum (11) for receiving a laundry
2 batch, the said drum being capable of being driven in rotation by means of a drive
3 (15), and with a plinth (14) carrying the drum (11) via a bearing stand (13),
4 **characterized** in that the plinth (14) is designed at least partially as a storage tank
5 for liquid removed from the laundry.

1 18. Device according to Claim 17, **characterized** in that the storage tank is
2 designed for receiving at least the liquid quantity occurring during a drainage
3 operation.

1 19. Device according to Claim 17, **characterized** in that the storage tank is
2 connected in a liquid-carrying manner to an outer drum (12) surrounding the drum
3 (11), for intercepting the liquid separated from the laundry by the drum (11).

1 20. Device according to Claim 13, **characterized** in that the orifices are formed
2 by identical cylindrical passage bores (19) with a diameter of about 3 mm.

1 21. Device according to Claim 14, **characterized** in that the passage bores
2 (19) have centre points and have spacings with respect to their centre points
3 (division) in a longitudinal and/or circumferential direction of the cylindrical surface
4 area (20) of the drum (11), the spacings being approximately identical or different
5 by a maximum of 0.3% to 1.0% of the diameter of the drum (11).

1 22. Device according to Claim 14, **characterized** in that the passage bores
2 (19) have centre points and have spacings with respect to their centre points
3 (division) in a longitudinal and/or circumferential direction of the cylindrical surface
4 area (20) of the drum (11), the spacings being approximately identical or different
5 by a maximum of 0.5% to 0.8% of the diameter of the drum (11).

1 23. Device according to Claim 17, **characterized** in that the storage tank is
2 designed for receiving at least double the the liquid quantity occurring during a
3 drainage operation.